



Legislative Update

June 2005

This report is a summary of the Commission's priority legislation by subject area, including actions taken by the legislature and the current status of the bills.

As of May 31, bills had moved through policy and fiscal committees in their house of origin and were being set for floor vote. The Commission will be provided an oral update on the status of each priority bill at the June 21, 2005, meeting.

Also attached is a list of other higher education related legislation being monitored by Commission staff.

The Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission is available at www.cpec.ca.gov.

Draft Commission Report

Accountability

AB 196 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Support:

This bill is the primary vehicle for implementation of a higher education accountability framework. After being held on the Assembly Appropriations 'suspense' file, the bill was amended to be less prescriptive declaring that *"an accountability process should be implemented that provides meaningful information to help policymakers and educators understand the extent to which California postsecondary education is meeting the educational needs of Californians."*

CSU Doctoral Degrees

SB 724 (Scott) -- Commission Position -- Watch:

– This bill provides for the granting of doctoral degrees in specified fields by CSU. It moved from the Senate Appropriations "suspense" file to the Senate floor on a 13-0 vote. CPEC staff is preparing a background paper on the issues associated with the granting of an independent doctorate for CSU. A preliminary draft of the paper will be used as a basis for discussion at the June 21, 2005, Commission meeting.

Financial Aid

AB 358 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Support:

This bill provides the policy basis for setting and adjusting the maximum Cal Grant for students attending independent colleges and universities. The bill moved from the Assembly Appropriations suspense file to the Assembly floor with amendments that phased in the formula for Cal Grants over three years and requested the Student Aid Commission to study the issue of "front loading" grant aid. NOTE: The Governor's May Revise restored a \$7.5 million Cal Grant reduction proposed for students at independent institutions.

Transfer

SB 652 -- (Scott) *Commission Position -- Support:* This bill requires the development of a statewide transfer process by UC in high demand majors for students transferring from community colleges. The bill passed unanimously from the Senate Appropriations suspense file to the Senate Floor. Thus far there has been no opposition to the bill.

Facilities/Space Utilization

ACR 34 (Liu) -- *Commission Position -- Support:* This resolution expresses the intent of the Legislature that the space utilization standards recommended by CPEC and supported by the segments be used as guidelines for the development of higher education facilities. It received the unanimous approval of the Assembly Higher Education Committee but was held in Appropriations Committee at the request of the author following a fiscal analysis that asserted that the ACR could cost the state an additional \$1 billion.

Student Fees – Community Colleges

AB 473 (Liu) -- *Commission Position -- Support:* This bill would permit the Board of Governor's to set and adjust community college fees based on principles consistent with the Commission's student fee policy. CPEC staff recommended and the Commission affirmed a "support" position at the May 19 teleconference meeting. The bill was substantially amended in Assembly Appropriations. In the current version the Board of Governor's "recommends" rather than sets fees for students attending Community Colleges.

CPEC Administration/Reorganization

AB 1072 (Liu) -- *Commission Position -- Oppose:* This bill, in its amended version, would have reconstituted the Commission as a nine-member Commission on Higher Education. The bill was heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on April 23 and held in committee, making it a two-year bill. The Committee is expected to consider it again in January 2006.

SB 445 (Ducheny) -- *Commission Position -- Oppose:* The amended version of this bill would have reconstituted the CPEC as the Commission on Statewide Postsecondary Education Policy and Planning. It was heard in the Senate Education Committee on April 28th and failed passage. Reconsideration of the bill was granted, but no date has been set for a hearing.

New Initiative – California Hope Public Trust and Hope Endowment Trust

AB 593 (Frommer) -- *Commission Position -- Watch:* This bill was passed from the Assembly Appropriations Suspense file to the Assembly Floor with amendments that would sunset the provisions of the trust and the endowment on January 1, 2009, unless legislation is passed by November 1, 2008, transferring state-owned property to the Hope Public Trust.

MATRIX 2005-2006 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY BILLS

	Bill Number	Author	Subject	CPEC Position	Policy Committee	Fiscal Committee	Floor Action	Policy Committee	Fiscal Committee	Floor Action	COMMENTS
1.	AB 196*	Liu	Higher Education Accountability	Support	X	X	X	P			Pending consideration in Senate Education Committee, Hearing 6/22/05.
2.	AB 358	Liu	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program	Support	X	X	X	P			Pending consideration in Senate Education Committee, Hearing 6/22/05.
3.	AB 473	Liu	Community Colleges: Student Fees	Support	X	X	X				Pending consideration in Senate Rules Committee.
4.	AB 700	Horton, J.	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program	Support	X	H					Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.
5.	AB 1072*	Liu	Postsecondary Ed: Office of the Secty for Higher Ed	Oppose	H						Re-referred to Assembly Higher Education Committee.
6.	ACR 34*	Liu	Public Higher Education Facilities	Support	X	H					Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee, no hearing scheduled.
7.	SB 361	Scott	Community Colleges: Growth Allocations for CCC Dist.	Watch	X	X	X	P			Pending consideration in Assembly Higher Education Committee.
8.	SB 445*	Ducheny	Commission on Statewide Postsec. Ed Policy & Planning	Oppose							Failed passage in Committee. Reconsideration granted.
9.	SB 652	Scott	Public Postsecondary Education: Transfer CCC to UC	Support	X	X	X	P			Pending consideration in Assembly Higher Education Committee.
10.	SB 724	Scott	California State University: Doctoral Degrees	Watch	X	X	X	P			Pending consideration in Assembly Higher Education Committee.
X-Action Taken H-Held in Committee P-Pending Consideration F-Failed Passage *CPEC Involvement 06/10/05											

Legislative Bills & Summaries

2005/2006 Legislative Session

Bill Number	Author	Subject
AB 23	Liu	Community College Finance Reform
AB 58	Nunez	Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006
AB 196	Liu	Higher Education Accountability
AB 232	Arambula	Community Colleges: Registered Nursing Programs
AB 317	Dymally	Community College Finance
AB 318	Dymally	Community Colleges: Funding
AB 358	Liu	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program.
AB 401	Goldberg	Education and Workforce Council
AB 473	Liu	Community Colleges: Student Fees
AB 593	Frommer	CA Hope Endowment
AB 700	Horton, Jerome	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Pro
AB 840	Arambula	Private postsecondary education: accreditation.
AB 870	Bermudez	Limiting mandatory systemwide fee increases
AB 918	Wyland	CSU: recognition of career technical education courses
AB 982	Laird	Community college fees.
AB 1072	Liu	Postsecondary education: Office of the Secretary for Higher Education
AB 1241	Matthews	Student Aid Commission: reports from high schools.
AB 1350	Cogdill	Public postsecondary education: dual admissions program.
AB 1366	Lieber	Community colleges: fiscal accountability
AB 1399	Garcia	Cal Grant Elig. children of active duty military
AB 1402	Blakeslee	Community colleges: property tax revenues.
AB 1436	Baca	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program: funding for teacher preparation.
AB 1646	Committee on Higher Ed	Community colleges: funding.
ACR 34	Liu	Public higher education facilities
SB 5	Morrow	Student Bill of Rights
SB 13	Bowen	Personal Information
SB 361	Scott	Community colleges: growth allocations for community college districts.
SB 407	Margett	Corporate taxes: taxpayer contributions: Postsecondary Education Trust Fund
SB 445	Ducheny	Commission on Statewide Postsecondary Education Policy and Planning
SB 531	Ortiz	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program
SB 652	Scott	Public Postsecondary education: transfer CCC to UC
SB 724	Scott	California State University: doctoral degrees
SB 847	Ducheny	Council on Education, Workforce, and the Economy
SB 871	Scott	Postsecondary Education Accountability Act of 2005
SB 918	Speier	Public postsecondary ed: acad stds for high school prep to CSU / UC
SB 964	Scott	Career technical education: curricula
SB 1080	Campbell	University of California
SCR 31	Simitian	Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Education